In the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 1, line 2, as follows:

This application is a continuation of U.S. patent application serial no. 09/851,021, filed May 8, 2001, and entitled Conveyor Induct System, now U.S. Patent No. 6,629,593, which claims priority to commonly assigned, U.S. provisional application serial no. 60/203,301, filed May 11, 2000, and entitled Induct for Next Generation Sorter.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 11, lines 24-31, as follows:

After calculator 56 has determined the control point of an article, this information can be fed to whatever other systems, modules, or structures that can make use of this information. In the embodiment depicted in FIG. 1, this information is fed to gap control system 40 where it is used to more accurately control the gapping of articles exiting on take-away conveyor. Alternatively, this information could be used in an induct process such as that described in commonly assigned, U.S. patent application serial no. ~~09/699,170~~ 09/669,170, filed September 25, 2000, and entitled High Rate Induction System, the disclosure of which is hereby incorporated by reference.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 13, lines 16-31, as follows:

As article 34f moves along conveyor 24, feedback controller 72 will repeatedly issue commands to motor 76 to adjust its speed in order to create the desired gap between articles 34f and 34g. Feedback controller 72 will continue to output commands to adjust the gap between article 34f and article 34g until control point 52 reaches the midpoint between conveyors 24 and 32 (assuming the control point to be based on a reference point midway between conveyors).

When control point 52 has reached this midpoint, article 34f is no longer being controlled by conveyor 24, despite the portion of article 34f that is still physically located on conveyor 24. Adjustments to motor 76 in order to change the gap between articles 34f and 34g are therefore ineffective. Thus, when control points 52 of article 34f has reached the midpoint between conveyors 24 and 32, gap selector 66 chooses the gap between articles 34e and f as the gap whose dimensions are being input into comparator 68. Thereafter, any adjustments in the speed of motor 76 will affect the gap between articles 34e and f, rather than articles 34f and g. Any necessary adjustments to the gap between articles 34e and f will continue to be implemented by gap control system 40 until the control point of article 34e reaches the midpoint between conveyors 24 and 32. At that point, the gapping control will switch to the next ~~downstream~~ upstream gap, and so on.